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(DAILY AND WEEKLY.)

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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28, 1899.

Hawaii will be quite numerously represented at the Los Angeles teachers convention. The trip from here to the Coast and back is probably more expensive than from almost any part of the mainland to the same point. It is quite right that we should be represented in force, for our educational problems are by no means easy ones, and our teachers can throw light, as well as having light thrown upon them.

A portion of Dr. Maxwell's report comparing the earning capacity of the laborer in Louisiana and on the Hawaiian Islands is published in this issue. It is of the greatest importance that a statement of this kind, coming from an authoritative source like that of Dr. Maxwell, should have as wide publicity as possible. An interesting portion of the professor's report is that in which he regards the value of the laborer to the employer as well as to the man himself. It is not often that light is thrown upon both sides of the question as Dr. Maxwell has done. The report may be considered one of the most valuable contributions on the subject of labor on the Islands that has yet been published.

The last news from the Transvaal seemed to be of a more pacific character. If the Uitlanders even get a moderate chance at the franchise, they will probably be satisfied. President Kruger intimated that such a policy he was at last willing to agree to. The friction, however, is very great, and there is no doubt that had it been necessary an overwhelming force would have been moved upon the Transvaal by the British. A war of this character is utterly unsatisfactory, and there is no glory in it. The best plan, but it is one that is seldom taken by England, is to strike a crushing blow at once. The usual policy is to fiddle faddle with a totally inadequate force. It is to be hoped that the next news may be more pacific still. The friction, however, between the conservative Boer and the progressive Uitlander will continue for years to come. Politically two opposing elements may be reconciled, but it takes a generation or two to wipe out the deep rancor of race hatred.

PROSPECTS.

Some mention is occasionally made of Mexico as a possible sugar producing country. There will have to be a mighty change in cultivation and handling before it can make any headway. At present Mexico produces from 70,000 to 90,000 tons annually, which is entirely consumed by the inhabitants. Cuba, when in proper working order has produced 1,000,000 tons, and there is no telling what its limit may be with American energy and American capital. The sugar crop of Hawaii for 1897 was 251,126 tons.

The sugar raising in Mexico must be done on a very small scale, for the crop is the produce of 2800 estates. Of course this means the use of the very crudest means for growing cane and for manufacturing sugar. Before the destruction of Cuban estates during the war between Cubans and Spaniards, there were 500 plantations on that island which produced the million tons mentioned above, giving 2000 tons to each plantation while the Hawaiian Islands with sixty plantations in 1897, averaged 4000 tons per estate, the variation being from nearly 20,000 tons for the highest to 1000 tons for the lowest.

There need be no thought given to Mexico as a sugar producing country. Indeed just now things are most propitious for the islands. Neither Cuba nor the Philippines will for the next three or four years produce anything like their regular quota, for the world's markets, the beet crop will be short this year, and of course no new tropical country could hope to do anything even during the time it takes Cuba and the Philippines to recover. Our position is then a peculiarly happy one. We may feel commiseration for the other sugar growing countries, but we cannot help rejoicing for ourselves. There are good prices in store.

HOME FOR INCURABLES.

The establishment of a home for incurables is a subject that must not be lost sight of. It is a matter which appeals to so many people, that support will be readily given. The letters from Observer and John Emmeluth and the articles which have appeared in The Star, are having their effect. People talk about the home for incurables, not as a vague possibility, but as an institution which must be pushed forward to realization.

All those who are engaged in the charitable work of the city, and the care of the sick and dying, know how necessary such a home is. The cases where it has been found next to impossible to find a resting place for dying men and women, are very numerous. Few people outside of those who

have had to try and find a home for these poor creatures, realize how terrible their condition is and how very difficult it is to provide for them.

It was not so long ago when a young man wandered round from one place to another, and finally died in the house of a samaritan who took him when he was almost at death's door. For these there is no place in the hospital, even when they are ready to pay. Not only are they miserable themselves, but they are a menace to their fellow creatures. Are we going on forever, closing our eyes to the miseries around us, misery which can be readily found if we will look for them. The priest and the Levite passed by on the other side and left the unfortunate who fell among thieves and got sorely bruised in the encounter, very severely alone. It was no business of theirs said they. But the Samaritan not only stopped and gave aid, but he saw the victim placed in a position of safety and put his hand into his purse to help him.

Are we, as a community, going to play the part of the priest and the Levite, or are we going to enact that of the Samaritan, or rather it should be said, are we going to continue to play the former parts, for we have been doing so long enough.

The cases which were cited recently in communication were not fancy pictures. There has been no drawing upon the imagination, and no dressing up of facts. It was no fancy case which Mr. Emmeluth cited of a struggling widow, with a growing family, throwing precaution to the winds, and nursing a dying consumptive. It was no fancy picture when a poor Hawaiian girl, in the last stages of consumption, could find no abiding place. It was no fancy picture when a consumptive sailor was passed from one individual to another, finding no shelter and little food, till he almost died in the street. These things have happened, and they may happen again.

"Bis dat qui cito dat,"—he gives twice who gives quickly, says the old Latin poet, and it is a true bit of philosophy, which may be applied to the present matter. After much discussion the question of the home for incurables is in abeyance. The land which the committee, that had the matter in hand a few weeks ago, had decided upon, is not available. Those in charge of it feel disposed to play the part of the priest and the Levite and pass on the other side. Of course there is no obligation that any one should sell land for this purpose, but when a suitable piece is found, which would be advantageous, a public spirited body of men, and one which had the good of Hawaiians at heart, would do a graceful and charitable deed to sell, or better still, to give the land. But if that piece cannot be obtained, why another location should be chosen.

It is no use standing over the patient's body and arguing where to place him, prolonging the controversy to such an extent that when some sort of agreement is reached, it is found that the patient has already solved the question by dying where he is. We don't want to wait for any such catastrophe. We want to get at what we propose to do, and we want to get at it quickly. We might take the advice given in that little brochure "A Message to Garcia." Just as the messenger did not hum and haw, and ask how to get to his journey's end but straightway went and did it, so we should cease humming and hawing, and get practically to work upon our home.

It is true that the demand for assistance to various charitable institutions and organizations is continuous. But it must be remembered that this community has been singularly blessed with prosperity, and that it is the duty of the prosperous to provide for those who are unfortunate.

The home of incurables is an object which appeals to all. There should be no religious prejudice, no race feeling called up by it. It is an institution where religion and race should meet on a common plane, the plane of death. For the home for incurables simply means the place where those for whom there is no hope of life will go to await the inevitable end. It is the place that we shall provide for the weary and wornout to lay their disease-stricken bodies and peacefully watch for the approach of death. Kind hearts and skilled hands can smooth the last path of the incurable, and it is this which this community is called upon to provide—and the provision should be made quickly.

T. G. BALLENTYNE H. P. EAKIN

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AMERICAN SUGAR CO.
KIHEI**BALLENTYNE & EAKIN**Stock and Bond Brokers
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LOST.

Certificates 901 and 906 of Oahu Sugar Company.
Certificates 402 and 403 of Hawaiian Agricultural Company.
Transfer has been stopped. Finder will be suitably rewarded if certificates are left at the Star office.

Timely Topics

Honolulu, June 1, 1899.

Settled conditions in the management and working force has been accomplished and in looking over the stock the following articles are found which deserve special mention, as being of merit and will be sold at competitive prices.

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